F B I

Date: 9/3/68

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Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

MERKIN

Re telephone call from Bureau Supervisor [redacted] General Investigative Division, to Buffalo, 8/24/68, during which Supervisor [redacted] advised that highly confidential information had been received indicating that the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, might have been arrested by the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, during June or July, 1967, on a charge of jaywalking.

On 8/27/68, Inspector [redacted] (NA), Head of the Central Identification Division of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department (MTPD), was requested to make the necessary record checks to determine whether RAY was, in fact, arrested in Toronto for jaywalking, and in connection with this request, was furnished with all known aliases used by RAY in the past.

On 8/28/68, Inspector [redacted] advised that subject, under his true name and all aliases, had been checked through the Central Identification Bureau, the Records and Inquiry Bureau, and the Letter File of the MTPD; and no information was developed indicating an arrest in Toronto at any time under any of RAY's aliases.

In addition, Inspector [redacted] pointed out that it was not the practice of the MTPD to arrest individuals for jaywalking but that on infrequent occasions, a police officer would issue summonses for this offense. Inspector [redacted] had all available records of the MTPD checked regarding summonses issued for jaywalking and determined that no unanswered summonses were on file for the offense of jaywalking in the City of Toronto during the months of June and July of 1967.

REC 38 44-38861-5143

6 - Bureau (AM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - Buffalo
JRM:hlg

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Special Agent in Charge

SEP 5 1968

Inspector [redacted] pointed out that ordinarily if a person failed to appear in answer to a jaywalking summons, a bench warrant would be issued for his arrest and that the records of the MTPD contained no outstanding warrants based upon this type of violation during the pertinent period.

For the further assistance of the Bureau in connection with Supervisor [redacted] inquiry concerning innocuous calls previously received by the individuals in Toronto whose identities subject assumed while in Toronto during the period from April 8 to May 6, 1968, attention is called to Buffalo airtel to the Bureau dated 6/11/68 with which were forwarded two copies of a memorandum setting forth a chronology of subject's activities while in Toronto insofar as was known at that time and which included specific references to the innocuous calls received by the individuals whose identities RAY assumed. More detailed data concerning those calls was undoubtedly submitted by Legat, Ottawa, since the RCMP in Toronto are known to have prepared a lengthy report for Legat, Ottawa, including that type of information.

The same situation exists insofar as the third point raised by Supervisor [redacted] in referenced telephone call, that is, the availability of vital statistics information utilized by RAY in connection with the assumed identities while in Toronto.